

## REQUEST FOR REVIEW

Please review the attached notification and indicate your response. If your agency requires additional information, contact the applicant directly or call Region D Council of Governments' Clearinghouse. Please submit your response to the address below by the due date indicated.  
Phone: (828) 265-5434

SCH Number 03-E-0000-0021 Date 7/26/02 Response Date 8/28/02

### Please Sign and Return This Page Only To:

Region D Council of Governments  
Clearinghouse Coordinator  
P.O. Box 1820  
Boone, NC 28607

### Reviewers:

Rocky Nelson-Watauga County Manager  
Don Holycross-Blowing Rock Town Manager  
Greg Young-Boone Town Manager

A-21

Attached is a summary of the Draft Environmental Statement for the US 321 Improvements Project in Caldwell and Watauga Counties. A complete copy of the Statement is available for review at the Region D Council of Governments' Offices in Boone, NC at 265-5434 ext. 125.

Response: This agency has reviewed the notification and offers the following recommendation: (Check appropriate response/more than one can be checked)

☐ No Comment

☒ Favorable. The project is in agreement with the goals and objectives of this agency's programs.

☐ Unfavorable. The project is not in agreement with the goals and objectives of this agency's programs.

☐ Potential Problem (s). Identify:

### Comments:

Reviewed by

Name: Greg Young

Agency: Town of Boone

Date: 7-30-02

## REQUEST FOR REVIEW

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☐ Unfavorable. The project is not in agreement with the goals and objectives of this agency's programs.

☐ Potential Problem (s). Identify:

### Comments:

See attached. 321 project included in  
County Thoroughfare Plan.

Reviewed by

Name:

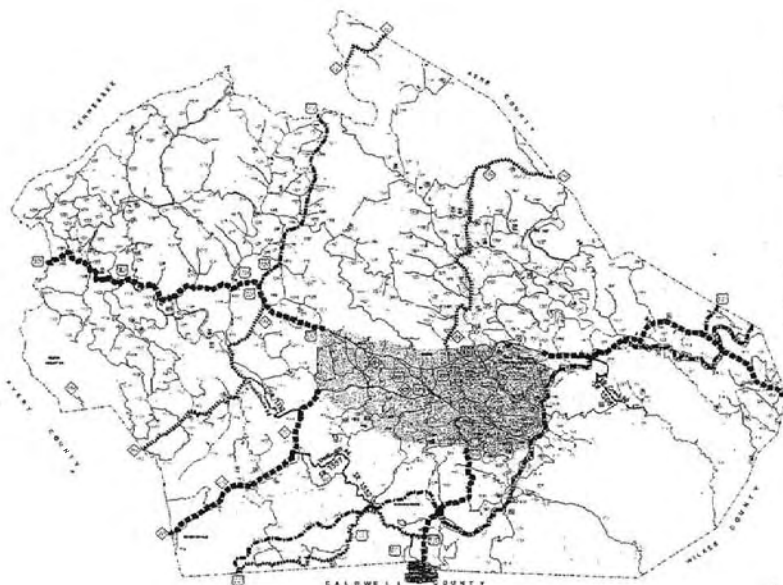
Joseph A. Furman

Agency:

Watauga County  
Planning + Inspections  
Director

Date:

8/13/02



Legend		
	Existing	Proposed
Interstate		
Principal Arterial		
Minor Arterial		
Major Collector		
Minor Collector		
Grade Separation		
Interchanges		
Urban Planning Boundary		

ADOPTED BY:

Watauga County	FEBRUARY 4, 2002
Recommended By:	APRIL 9, 2002
Statewide Planning Branch	
N.C. Department of Transportation	MAY 2, 2002



THOROUGHFARE PLAN  
WATAUGA COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA

PREPARED BY THE  
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
STATEWIDE PLANNING BRANCH  
IN COOPERATION WITH THE  
CLASSIFICATION OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION





IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
SOUTHEAST ARCHEOLOGICAL CENTER  
2035 E. Paul Dirac Drive  
Johnson Building, Box 7  
Tallahassee, Florida 32310

H2015 (SEAC)

September 6, 2001

Ms. Loretta Lautzenheiser  
President  
Coastal Carolina Research, Inc.  
310 East Baker Street  
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886

Dear Ms. Lautzenheiser,

We have received the field documentation for your survey of US Highway 321 of lands within the boundaries of the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina (SEAC Accession 1567; BLRI Accession 496). The documentation is complete and in good order.

I appreciate your prompt and efficient handling of our request for the project documentation.

Sincerely,

Richard Vernon  
Supervisory Museum Specialist

cc: Jackie Holt, BLRI

## COASTAL CAROLINA RESEARCH, INC.

310 EAST BAKER STREET  
TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27886  
(252) 641-1444  
FAX (252) 641-1235  
LLautccr@aol.com

August 28, 2001

Mr. Richard Vernon  
Collection Manager  
National Park Service  
Southeast Archaeological Center  
2035 E. Paul Dirac Dr., Suite 120  
Tallahassee, FL 32310

Dear Mr. Johnson,

RE: NPS ARPA Permit BLRI 01-002

We did not record any sites or recover any artifacts from our survey of US 321 in North Carolina that included lands of the Blue Ridge Parkway, so we have no artifacts to submit. However, I am sending copies of the field notes, shovel test forms, maps, photo log, photographs, and negatives of the work conducted on the Blue Ridge Parkway. NCDOT has already sent copies of the final report. Thank you for your assistance, and please call if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

  
Loretta Lautzenheiser  
President

cc: Tom Padgett, NCDOT

A-23



**North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources  
State Historic Preservation Office**

David L. S. Brook, Administrator

Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary

Division of Archives and History  
Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

June 13, 2001

**MEMORANDUM**

To: William D. Gilmore, P.E., Manager  
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch

From: David Brook  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Re: Improvements, US 321 from NC 268 to north junction US 321 and  
Business 321, R-2237, Caldwell, Watauga County, 90-E-4220-0697



Thank you for your letter of April 26, 2001, transmitting the archaeological survey report by Susan Bamann, Mary Ann Holm, and Loretta Lautzenheiser concerning the above project.

During the course of the survey no archaeological sites were located within the project area. The authors have recommended that no further archaeological investigation be conducted in connection with this project. We concur with this recommendation since this project will not involve significant archaeological resources.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, Environmental Review Coordinator, at 919/733-4763.

DB:kgc

cc: Wadsworth, FHwA  
Tom Padgett, NCDOT  
Loretta Lautzenheiser, Coastal Carolina Research



**North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources**

James B. Hunt Jr., Governor  
Betty Ray McCain, Secretary

Division of Archives and History  
Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

July 9, 1997

Nicholas L. Graf  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration  
Department of Transportation  
310 New Bern Avenue  
Raleigh, N.C. 27601-1442

Re: US 321 Bypass of Blowing Rock, Caldwell and  
Watauga Counties, R-2237C, Federal Aid Project  
No. NHF-321(1), State Project 8.T731301, ER  
97-9323



Dear Mr. Graf:

Thank you for your letter of June 4, 1997, transmitting the historic structures survey report by Mattson, Alexander & Associates concerning the above project.

The following properties are listed in the National Register of Historic Places:

**Bollinger-Hartley House.** This property is listed in the National Register under Criterion C as an intact example of the bungalow style that developed as a popular house design for local residents during the tourist boom of the early twentieth century.

**Green Park Historic District.** This property is listed in the National Register under Criterion A because of its local significance in the area of social history and under Criterion C because of its local significance in the areas of architecture and landscape design.

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we concur that the following properties are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under the criterion cited:

**Green Park Historic District boundary expansion.** The boundaries of the district should be expanded to include the Young-Shaw-Steele House (east side of SR 1536, north of Wonderland Drive, Blowing Rock). The house is a substantially intact version of the Craftsman-style cottages that arose throughout the Green Park summer colony in the 1920s. The Young-Shaw-Steele House is separated from the district by only one noncontributing property, and clearly marks the northern end of the historic Green Park development.

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	Location	Mailing Address	Telephone/Fax
Administration	507 N. Blount St. Raleigh, NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh 27699-4617	(919) 733-4763 • 733-8653
Restoration	515 N. Blount St. Raleigh, NC	4613 Mail Service Center, Raleigh 27699-4613	(919) 733-6547 • 715-4801
Survey & Planning	515 N. Blount St. Raleigh, NC	4618 Mail Service Center, Raleigh 27699-4618	(919) 733-4763 • 715-4801

109 East Jones Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-2807



Nicholas L. Graf  
July 9, 1997, Page 2

Five Points (A. L. Shuford House), east side of Green Hill road, approximately 0.2 mile south of junction with Fairway Court, Blowing Rock. This house is a well-preserved example of the often-sophisticated rustic resort architecture built in Blowing Rock during the interwar years, and is eligible under Criterion A for social history and Criterion C for architecture. We believe the proposed boundaries are appropriate for this property.

The following properties are determined not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places:

Estes-Craig House, north side of SR 1535, at junction with Green Hill Road, Blowing Rock vicinity. This property lacks special historic or architectural significance.

(former) Blowing Rock Negro Community Church, east side of Opossum Hollow Road, approximately 0.75 mile south of junction with US 321, Blowing Rock. Although the church has important social history, it has undergone extensive alteration and no longer retains sufficient integrity to meet National Register criteria.

Bolick House and Outbuildings, south side of Bailey Camp Road, approximately 0.3 mile south of junction with US 321, Blowing Rock vicinity. This property lacks special historic or architectural significance.

The report meets our office's guidelines and those of the Secretary of the Interior.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, please contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919/733-4763.

Sincerely,

  
David Brook  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DB:slw

cc: H. F. Vick  
B. Church  
Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc.



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources  
State Historic Preservation Office

David L. S. Brook, Administrator


Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary

Division of Archives and History  
Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

June 13, 2001

MEMORANDUM

To: William D. Gilmore, P.E., Manager  
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch

From: David Brook  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 

Re: Improvements, US 321 from NC 268 to north junction US 321 and  
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Thank you for your letter of April 26, 2001, transmitting the archaeological survey report by Susan Bamann, Mary Ann Holm, and Loretta Lautzenheiser concerning the above project.

During the course of the survey no archaeological sites were located within the project area. The authors have recommended that no further archaeological investigation be conducted in connection with this project. We concur with this recommendation since this project will not involve significant archaeological resources.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, Environmental Review Coordinator, at 919/733-4763.

DB:kgc

cc: Wadsworth, FHWA  
Tom Padgett, NCDOT  
Loretta Lautzenheiser, Coastal Carolina Research

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State Project # 6.739001T

TIP # R-2237C

County: Watauga/Caldwell

CONCURRENCE FORM FOR ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS

Project Description: US 321 Improvements Project @ Blowing Rock

On 4/19/2005, representatives of the

- ☒ North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)
- ☒ Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- ☒ North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO)
- ☐ Other

Reviewed the subject project and agreed *that for the several alignments:*

- ☒ There are no effects on the National Register-listed property/properties located within the project's area of potential effect and listed on the reverse.
- ☒ There are no effects on the National Register-eligible property/properties located within the project's area of potential effect and listed on the reverse.
- ☒ There is an effect on the National Register-listed property/properties located within the project's area of potential effect. The property/properties and the effect(s) are listed on the reverse.
- ☒ There is an effect on the National Register-eligible property/properties located within the project's area of potential effect. The property/properties and effect(s) are listed on the reverse.

Signed:

Mary Pope 5/3/2005  
Representative, NCDOT Date

FHWA, for the Division Administrator, or other Federal Agency Date

Renee Whedhill-Early 4/26/05  
Representative, HPO Date

Robert Snell 4/26/05  
State Historic Preservation Officer Date

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State Project # 6.739001T

TIP # R-2237C

County: Watauga/Caldwell

Properties within the area of potential effect for which there is no effect. Indicate if property is National Register-listed (NR) or determined eligible (DE).

Blue Ridge Parkway (DE)

No effect for Widening Existing US 321, Bypass Alternative 1A, and Bypass Alternative 1B

Bollinger-Hartley House (NR)

No effect for Bypass Alternative 1A, Bypass Alternative 1B, Bypass Alternative 4A, and Bypass Alternative 4B

Green Park Historic District (NR)

No effect for Bypass Alternative 1A, Bypass Alternative 1B, Bypass Alternative 4A, and Bypass Alternative 4B

Properties within the area of potential effect for which there is an effect. Indicate property status (NR or DE) and describe the effect.

Blue Ridge Parkway (DE)

Adverse Effect for Bypass Alternative 4A and Bypass Alternative 4B

Bollinger-Hartley House (NR)

No adverse effect for Widening Existing US 321

Green Park Historic District (NR)

Adverse effect for Widening Existing US 321

Reason(s) why the effect is not adverse (if applicable).

Bollinger-Hartley House (NR)

There is no adverse effect on the house for the alternative "Widening Existing US 321" because the house does not face the existing road and a steep vegetated slope rises from the home's back yard to the existing road. NCDOT shall construct a retaining wall inside existing ROW that will replace a portion of the vegetated slope and NCDOT shall consult with the HPO and the property as to the design of this wall.

Initialed:

NCDOT MPK

FHWA \_\_\_\_\_

HPO OSE



## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-1188, 919-733-3391  
Charles R. Fullwood, Executive Director

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Melba McGee, Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs  
Dept. of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources

FROM: Stephanie E. Goudreau, Mt. Region Coordinator  
Habitat Conservation Program *Stephanie E. Goudreau*

DATE: September 21, 1995  
0129

SUBJECT: State Clearinghouse Project No. 96-0120, Scoping comments for proposed improvement of US 321 from SR 1500 to US 221 in Blowing Rock, Caldwell and Watauga Counties, TIP #R-2237C.

This correspondence responds to a request by you for our review and preliminary comments regarding a proposal by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to improve US 321 from SR 1500 (Blackberry Road) to US 221 in Blowing Rock. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for this project.

The NCDOT proposes to improve US 321 for a distance of 4.3 miles in Caldwell and Watauga Counties. Both a widening alternative and bypass alternatives are being considered. Biological staff of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) previously commented on segments of this project in memoranda to you dated 3 September 1993 and 2 November 1994.

In order for biological staff of the NCWRC to provide a meaningful review, the EIS prepared for this project should include the following information:

- 1) Description of fishery and wildlife resources within the project area, including a listing of federally or state designated threatened, endangered, or special concern animal and plant species. Contact is the Mr. Steven Hall of the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (919/733-7701).

Recent fish sampling by the NCWRC (1988 and 1989) in the Yadkin River near NC 268 revealed that the river supports smallmouth bass, redbreast sunfish, and 13 nongame species in this area. Brook trout and rainbow trout were collected by the NCWRC in 1989 much farther upstream near the river's confluence with Dennis Creek. Other streams near the project corridor that support trout are Mulberry Creek, Johns River, and possibly

96-0129

Page 2

September 21, 1995

Kirby Creek. Various streams and their tributaries crossed by the roadway likely contain mostly nongame fish species, although some may support trout.

- 2) Description of waters and/or wetlands affected by the project.
- 3) Project map identifying waters and wetland areas. Identification of wetlands may be accomplished through coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. If the Corps is not consulted, the person delineating wetlands should be identified and criteria listed.
- 4) Description of project activities that will stream crossings or channel modification occur within waters and wetlands, such as fill, alternative project designs should be listed. Acreages of waters and wetlands impacted by Corps has been contacted to determine the need for a 404 Permit under the Clean Water Act. Contact is Mr. Steve Chapin at 704/271-4014.
- 5) Description of project site and non-wetland vegetative communities.
- 6) The extent to which the project will result in loss, degradation, or fragmentation of wildlife habitat.
- 7) Any measures proposed to avoid or reduce impacts of the project or to mitigate for unavoidable habitat losses.
- 8) A list of document preparers which shows each individual's professional background and qualifications.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide this information to the NCDOT in the early planning stages of this project. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at 704/652-4257.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this project. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at 704/652-4257.

cc: Mr. Chris Goudreau, District 8 Fisheries Biologist  
Mr. Joe Mickey, District 7 Fisheries Biologist  
Mr. Jack Mason, District 8 Wildlife Biologist  
Mr. David Sawyer, District 7 Wildlife Biologist  
Ms. Janice Nicholls, USFWS

A-27



## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-1188, 919-733-3391  
MEMORANDUM Charles R. Fullwood, Executive Director

TO: John Page, Project Manager  
NCDOT Planning and Environmental Branch

FROM: Ron Linville, Regional Coordinator  
Habitat Conservation Program

DATE: February 15, 2000

SUBJECT: Review of U S 321 NEPA/404 Project Alternatives, Caldwell and Watauga Counties

Biologists with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) have reviewed information provided by the applicant relating to the subject project. We familiar with habitat values of the project area. These comments are provided in accordance with provisions of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 U.S.C. 466 et. seq.) and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661-667d).

Construction of new roads has historically had a detrimental effect on habitat quality of streams in the mountains of North Carolina. Due to the high gradients that characterize these areas, sedimentation is an almost unavoidable consequence of land disturbing activities near streams. Disturbance of riparian vegetation degrades water quality by decreasing bank stability and removing shade, causing water temperatures to rise. Placing culverts in streams often disrupts natural width-depth profiles of streams, causing avoidance of affected stream segments by fishes and disrupting migrations.

The NCWRC is concerned about the potential impacts of the NC 321 improvements around Blowing Rock in Caldwell and Watauga Counties. Blowing Rock is uniquely located at the divide of 3 major watersheds – the New River, the Catawba River and the Yadkin River. As such, any further development activities have the potential to impact a large number of aquatic resources. Furthermore, many of the small, high-gradient streams of this region support brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*), North Carolina's only native salmonid species. Brook trout distribution has been greatly reduced by habitat destruction and the introduction of non-native rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), which have displaced the brook trout throughout much of its original range. Consequently, protection of the remaining habitats of the brook trout is of utmost importance. Of the final three options presented by NCDOT (enhanced widening, bypass alternative 1, bypass alternative 4), the enhanced widening alternative is the most desirable from an aquatic resource protection standpoint.

Bypass alternative 4 will have the greatest impact on aquatic habitat of the three proposed options. Beginning at the southern terminus of the bypass and proceeding north, the bypass will cross over Bailey Camp Creek, which supports a wild brook trout population. The next drainage contains an unnamed tributary (UT) of the Yadkin River, which has a southern, middle, and northern fork. This UT supports a wild brook trout population downstream of the confluence of the three forks, but the forks themselves have not been sampled. The bypass will actually cross the middle fork of this tributary, and it will run close enough to the northern and southern forks that they may be affected by erosion during construction and altered surface flows resulting from increased surface imperviousness after the project is completed. Similarly, the bypass will run just west of the headwaters of Martin Branch, which supports a wild brook trout population. It will then run along a ridge separating the Middle Fork New River (including an UT Middle Fork New River that crosses the Blue Ridge Parkway near Green Cemetery) and an UT Aho Branch, creating the possibility of sediment flowing into either or both waters during construction. The UT Aho Branch also supports a wild brook trout population. The bypass will then cross Middle Fork New River and connect to NC 221/321 north of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Additionally, this section of the Middle Fork New River is Designated Public Mountain Trout Waters by the NCWRC and is managed under Hatchery Supported Regulations.

Bypass alternative 1, beginning at the route's southern terminus near the Watauga/Caldwell County line and proceeding north, will either cross the headwaters of or pass just west of the middle fork of the UT Yadkin River described in the previous paragraph. It will run close enough to the northern and southern forks that they may be affected by erosion during construction and altered surface flows resulting from increased surface imperviousness after the project is completed. This UT supports a wild brook trout population downstream of the confluence of the three forks, but the forks themselves have never been sampled. It will then cross over an UT Middle Fork New River east/southeast of Echo Park that supports a wild brook trout population. Additionally, several wetlands are known to exist along this tributary. Bypass 1 will then parallel and possibly cross an UT Middle Fork New River that enters the river just downstream of Chetola Lake. This UT Middle Fork New River supports a wild brook trout population. The bypass will connect to NC 221/321 just north of the junction of NC 321 Bypass and NC 221/NC 321 Business adjacent to the Middle Fork New River, which in this area is Designated Public Mountain Trout Waters by the NCWRC and is managed under Hatchery Supported Regulations.

Of the three proposed options, the enhanced widening alternative will have the least impact on aquatic resources. The NC 321 Bypass currently parallels the headwaters of the Middle Fork New River and the widening option may impact these waters. However, given that the majority of the NC 321 Bypass route is currently developed, the riparian corridor has already been altered and highway widening would have a minor impact on aquatic resources relative to the construction of Bypass routes 1 and 4, which pass through primarily undisturbed areas. Additionally, elevation gradients along the current NC 321 Bypass are minor in comparison to the steep gradients that characterize the majority of the areas to be affected by Bypass alternatives 1 and 4, which will decrease the possibility of sedimentation in the receiving waters. Most of the widening project will occur in the watershed of the Middle Fork New River, where impacts would be minimal due to previous development. However, for approximately ¼ of a mile east of the junction of NC 321 Business and NC 321 Bypass south of Blowing Rock, the current alignment appears to be on top of a ridge separating the Catawba and New River watersheds. It is not clear which watershed this area drains into, but if it does drain into the Catawba River watershed, there is a chance that the Johns River could be impacted. The Johns River is characterized by high quality habitat and has populations of wild brook trout found on USFS lands. Given that the Johns River is located well below the current alignment, and that widening



the current alignment would cause less disturbance than building a new road, the threats to the Johns River are minor in comparison to those facing the streams in the Yadkin and New River watersheds that will be affected by Bypass options 1 and 4. Nonetheless, the NCWRC would like to see every precaution taken to protect the water quality of the Johns River.

Our Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Section has no direct knowledge of any rare species occurrences within any of the proposed alignments; however, our data indicates that Hellbenders (SC), Tongue-tied minnows (SR), Kanawha minnows (SC), and Allegheny woodrats (SC) have been documented in the vicinity. In the case of each bypass alternative, an evaluation of habitats should indicate whether there is potential for these species to occur. In addition, the brook floater (*Alasmodonta varicosa* - T) occurs in the Johns River downstream of the Blowing Rock area, and the green floater (*Lasmigona subviridis* - E) occurs downstream from Blowing Rock in the New River drainage. Due to the nature of the proposed alternatives, it is clear that the "widen existing" road alternative is likely to disturb the least habitat and also result in the least impact from sedimentation upon all of the aquatic species above. The alternatives could also impact areas that could support endangered or threatened species or habitats. Additional studies would need to be accomplished in order to make a determination. Both the NC Natural Heritage Program and the US Fish and Wildlife Service should be involved.

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and other agencies are aware of the negative impacts of increased impervious areas associated with urban development. The enhanced widening alternative provides a unique opportunity to provide an aesthetically pleasing roadway as well as to minimize pollutant loading into mountain waters. We recommend that the planners design the urban roadway corridor with stormwater management considerations. These should include innovative methodologies and considerations such as:

1. Rain garden designs and/or bioretention cells
2. Stream buffer protection measures
3. Best Management Practices including cold water release stormwater ponds for mountain trout watersheds (the NCWRC is available to provide wildlife habitat considerations for stormwater facilities)
4. Stream buffer protection
5. Curbing and guttering avoidance
6. Point sources and/or discharge points minimization by providing sheet flow through vegetated buffers (i.e. trees, shrubs, or wetlands)
7. Researching and considering sensitive watershed deicing methods

Therefore, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission supports widening the existing road. We are strongly opposed to the alternative bypasses. Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this project. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at 336/769-9453.

Cc: .David Cox, NCWRC  
.Kin Hodges, NCWRC  
.Doug Besler, NCWRC  
.Bob Brown, NCWRC  
.Chris McGrath, NCWRC  
.Steve Lund, USACOE  
.Eric Alsmeyer, USACOE  
Mark Cantrell, USFWS  
.Frank McBride, NCWRC